



ACCESS CLINIC Alert Level Update 8 November 2021

With the recent Ministry of Health updated guideline for Alert Level 3 for Allied Health practitioners outside of a DHB setting, we are looking to restart the option of ACCESS Clinic face to face visits from the **17 November 2021**.

This is under the criteria of **“delay in access to services will impact the consumer’s ability to maintain functional independence and significantly negatively impact quality of life.”**

https://www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/pages/hp7861_-_al3_guidance_flow_chart_v5.pdf

We encourage the consideration of telehealth as an effective consultation option. This reduces the risk for practitioners and clients alike. Online sessions with the EMS Assessor and client in the home environment and ACCESS Clinic via zoom have proved positive and beneficial. If this option is appropriate, contact Nini Smith, ACCESS Clinic Administrator at clinic@accessable.co.nz to arrange.

If a face-to-face appointment is required, we will seek guidance from you to minimise risk, for example ensuring the environment supports natural ventilation. This can be achieved by assessment outside, large open areas and the use of PPE Gear – face masks, gown, and gloves. Our ACCESS Clinic specialists and attending technicians are fully vaccinated and we will request the vaccination status of all parties if that is known. Our normal screening and tracking processes will remain in place.

Please remember, if the risk to your clients’ safety escalates while you are waiting for ACCESS Clinic, review the situation with your own team leader to determine the best course of action to take to ensure client safety.

If you have any immediate concerns or specific requests, please contact Penny Bavage, Team Leader, via email at pbavage@accessable.co.nz to discuss.

We hope this update finds you all well in this challenging time. Please get in contact if you need to.

Remaining Clinic Dates and Locations for 2021:

17th November 2021 - North

24th November 2021 - South

1st December 2021 - Central

8th December 2021 – West and Northland